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PATENT

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Marked Up Version. Instructions refer to the specification as filed:

Please delete the paragraph that begins on page 32 at line 2 and continues to page 32 at line 10, and replace it with the following:

The same organism having different base compositions are different strains. Groups of organisms which are highlighted or in italics have the same base compositions in the amplified region. Some of these organisms can be distinguished using multiple primers. For example, *Bacillus anthracis* can be distinguished from *Bacillus cereus* and *Bacillus thuringiensis* using the primer 16S_971-1062 (Table 7). Other primer pairs which produce unique base composition signatures are shown in Table 7 ~~Table 6~~ (bold). Clusters containing very similar threat and ubiquitous non-threat organisms (e.g. *anthracis* cluster) are distinguished at high resolution with focused sets of primer pairs. The known biowarfare agents in Table 6 are *Bacillus anthracis*, *Yersinia pestis*, *Francisella tularensis* and *Rickettsia prowazekii*.